

WE CLAIM:

1. A touch pad module comprising:

a touch pad unit for generating contact signals in response to operation thereof;

5 a control circuit unit separate from said touch pad unit; and

10 an electrical coupling unit having a first end coupled to said touch pad unit and a second end coupled to said control circuit unit, said electrical coupling unit permitting transmission of the contact signals generated by said touch pad unit to said control circuit unit.

15 2. The touch pad module of Claim 1, wherein said touch pad unit includes a dielectric layer and a sensing layer formed on one surface of said dielectric layer.

3. The touch pad module of Claim 2, wherein said dielectric layer is made of a flexible material.

4. The touch pad module of Claim 3, wherein said flexible material is a resin material.

20 5. The touch pad module of Claim 4, wherein said resin material is polyester.

6. The touch pad module of Claim 2, wherein said touch pad unit further includes a protective layer formed on one side of said sensing layer opposite to said dielectric layer.

25 7. The touch pad module of Claim 6, wherein each of said dielectric layer and said protective layer is made of

a flexible material.

8. The touch pad module of Claim 7, wherein said flexible material is a resin material.

5 9. The touch pad module of Claim 8, wherein said resin material is polyester.

10. The touch pad module of Claim 6, wherein said touch pad unit further includes a metal layer formed on one side of said protective layer that is opposite to said sensing layer.

10 11. The touch pad module of Claim 1, wherein said electrical coupling unit is flexible.

12. The touch pad module of Claim 1, wherein said electrical coupling unit is a ribbon cable.

15 13. The touch pad module of Claim 1, further comprising a transmission interface adapted to connect said control circuit unit to an electronic device.

14. An electronic device comprising:

a casing;

20 a touch pad unit mounted on said casing and generating contact signals in response to operation thereof;

a control circuit unit separate from said touch pad unit and disposed in said casing; and

25 an electrical coupling unit disposed in said casing and having a first end coupled to said touch pad unit and a second end coupled to said control circuit unit, said electrical coupling unit permitting transmission of the contact signals generated by said touch pad unit

to said control circuit unit, said control circuit unit converting the contact signals received thereby into corresponding position information.

15. The electronic device of Claim 14, wherein said casing includes a base wall and a peripheral wall extending from a periphery of said base wall and having said touch pad unit mounted thereon.

5 16. The electronic device of Claim 14, wherein said touch pad unit is flexible.

10 17. The electronic device of Claim 14, wherein said electrical coupling unit is a ribbon cable.